

Rep. Eshoo Announces \$700,000 for Projects in 14th Congressional District Programs

Washington, D.C.— Rep. Anna G. Eshoo (D — Palo Alto) announced that the 14th Congressional District will receive \$700,000 for job retraining and education programs in the appropriations bill passed by the House today. The bill funds programs administered by the Departments of Education, Labor, and Health and Human Services.

“These programs will have a significant impact on reducing unemployment in our District,” Rep. Eshoo said. “We’re targeting attention on the building blocks of full employment: training older workers for new green-based industries and providing early technological education for students.”

Rep. Eshoo explained that the East Palo Alto Green Job Initiative will use \$600,000 provided by the Department of Labor to develop a green jobs training program for unemployed residents. Eden Housing will receive \$100,000 from Department of Education funds to expand their Digital Connector Program to East Palo Alto. This initiative gives technological training to low-income students living in Eden Housing complexes.

“Silicon Valley’s unemployment rate is at a record high - 11.8 %,” Rep. Eshoo noted.

“We must act now to ensure that displaced workers and students entering the workforce have access to the job training and educational tools they need to make them competitive in the rapidly growing renewable energy and technology industries.”

The FY 2010 Labor, HHS, and Education Appropriations Act will make historic investments in community health centers, early childhood education, and Pell Grants for qualified high school students to attend college. The legislation also includes money for job training and placement initiatives.

Rep. Eshoo released the following details about the two projects she worked to include in the FY 2010 Labor, HHS, and Education Appropriations Act:

- \$600,000 for East Palo Alto through the Department of Labor to create a green jobs training program for unemployed residents. The program will train those that are unemployed to take on new green jobs. The unemployment rate in East Palo Alto is nearly double that of the rest of Santa Clara County.

- \$100,000 for Eden Housing through the Department of Education to expand their Digital Connector Program to East Palo Alto. Eden Housing provides affordable housing units to low-income students. The Digital Connector Program trains low-income students who live in the Eden Housing complexes to prepare them for employment in the technology sector.

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